

# Regional Planning Review Process

## Engagement Plan

Draft: November 12, 2018

### I. Introduction

The regional planning process identifies needs and solutions for a planning region and includes input from community engagement sessions, whose meetings are open to the public, and plans that are posted online. The current regional planning process was formalized in 2013 and, since that time, the needs of all 21 planning regions in Ontario have been evaluated, completing the first cycle of the process. As the IESO and regional planning partners move forward to the next cycle of regional planning, there is an opportunity to review the existing process to determine where planning activities can be better coordinated and streamlined, and where the process can be evolved to better consider conservation, distributed energy resources and customer-based solutions to meet local needs.

The IESO will be seeking feedback from stakeholders and communities to consider lessons learned and findings from other regional planning development initiatives, such as pilots and studies to improve the process for future cycles.

This engagement plan outlines the objectives, approach, timeline and considerations for engaging stakeholders in the development of this process. This engagement plan may be subject to review and update as the process evolves. All comments and enquiries on this engagement can be directed to [engagement@ieso.ca](mailto:engagement@ieso.ca).

### II. Engagement Objectives

The objectives of this engagement are to ensure that stakeholders and communities understand this initiative and can provide feedback on the regional planning process. The process should evolve to enable improvements to the inputs, process and products and to support emerging trends and new priorities within the regional planning processes.

### III. Stakeholders and Communities

The IESO encourages all interested parties to participate in this engagement through the public engagement sessions described in the “approach” section below. The IESO anticipates that this initiative will be of particular interest to transmitters, local distribution companies (LDCs), indigenous communities, municipalities, transmission-connected customers, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB), associations and community group, and proponents of alternatives to transmission and distribution infrastructure solutions.

#### IV. Approach

The implementation of this engagement plan will be in accordance with the IESO's approved [engagement principles](#).

This is a public engagement process. All materials will be posted on the dedicated IESO engagement [webpage](#) for this initiative. In addition, any information/input supplied by interested parties will also be posted (with consent).

The approach for this engagement initiative includes forming a Regional Planning Review Advisory Group who will perform an advisory role to support and assist the IESO in the regional planning process review. There will also be opportunities for all stakeholders and communities to provide input through various channels such as webinars, information sessions, and written feedback. The IESO project team will consider all relevant input and illustrate how feedback was considered to shape the stated objectives.

Timing	Engagement Activity
May 2018	Call for nominations for the IESO Regional Planning Review Advisory Group
July 2018	Confirm advisory group membership
August 2018	Provide introduction to regional planning webinar for advisory group
September 2018	IESO RPRAG Meeting #1: IESO to provide context for the Regional Planning Review & to seek input from the RPRAG on engagement approaches and materials where appropriate.
October 22-24, 2018	Indigenous Energy Symposium
November 1, 2018	IESO RPRAG Meeting #2: The advisory group will discuss barriers to implementing non-wires alternatives in regional planning; seeking great efficiency and flexibility in the regional planning process; and transmission asset end-of-life: asset replacement information process.
November 22, 2018	Metis Nation Energy Workshop
November 23, 2018	Public Webinar #1: Regional Planning Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Overview of initiative and objectives</li><li>• Outline preliminary process development</li><li>• Seek feedback</li></ul>

January 2019	IESO to publish an interim report on the Regional Planning Review and seek feedback from RPRAG and broader public engagement
February 2019	IESO RPRAG Meeting #3: IESO to seek feedback on interim report
February/March 2019	Public Webinar #2: Regional Planning Review Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of Interim Report</li> <li>• Introduction to Barriers to Non-Wires Solution</li> <li>• Seek feedback</li> </ul>
Q2/Q3/Q4 2019	Additional IESO RPRAG Meetings
December 2019	IESO to publish an draft Regional Planning Review report and seek feedback from RPRAG and broader public engagement
Q1 2020	IESO to publish final Regional Planning Review report

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